

64/95

292

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(10 marks)

1. A great number of picnickers _____ responsible for littering the beach last Sunday.

- ☒ (1) is
- ☒ (2) are
- ☒ (3) was
- (4) were

(4)

2. The maids _____ cleaning the house since morning.

- ☒ (1) is
- ☒ (2) are
- ☒ (3) has been
- (4) have been

(4)

3. The librarian told Tim and _____ that we had to stay behind after class to sort out the books.

- (1) I
- (2) me
- (3) my
- (4) mine

(1) 2

4. Nobody has moved into the old flat, _____ they?

- (1) did
- (2) have
- (3) didn't
- (4) haven't

(2)

5. Johnny _____ the whole day before we reached his house for dinner.

- ☒ (1) has been drawing
- ☒ (2) had drawn
- ☒ (3) had been drawing
- ☒ (4) has drawn

(3)

6. After my sister _____ the bathrooms, she _____ the floor.

- (1) cleaned ... mopped
- (2) had cleaned ... mopped
- (3) cleaned ... had mopped
- (4) had cleaned ... had mopped

(2)

7. In a pandemic, it is important for us to step _____ hygiene practices and remain alert at all times.

- (1) in
- (2) on
- (3) up
- (4) out

(3)

8. To _____ it may concern, I would like to lodge a complaint against your company for refusing to give us a refund on damaged items.

- (1) who
- (2) whom
- (3) whose
- (4) whoever

(2)

9. Mr Tang, _____ shophouse was destroyed in the fire, managed to claim a huge sum of compensation from the insurance company.

- (1) who
- (2) which
- (3) whom
- (4) whose

(4)

10. I found out that the coffee that I had ordered _____ served to the lady at the table about five minutes ago.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

(3)



For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(5 marks)

11. The meat is overcooked. It is as tough as _____

- (1) skin
- (2) wood
- (3) rubber
- (4) leather

(3)

4

12. The _____ tycoon made a large donation to an orphanage in Laos.

- (1) pompous
- (2) ambitious
- (3) benevolent
- (4) malevolent

(3)

13. The robber hid in the bushes and tried to make himself as _____ as possible to avoid being spotted by the guards.

- (1) invisible
- (2) indiscreet
- (3) indescribable
- (4) inconspicuous

(1)

4

14. Whenever Alvin meets his former classmates in their reunion gatherings, they will _____ the good times spent together.

- (1) renew
- (2) regain
- (3) rehearse
- (4) reminisce

(2)

4

15. The explosion at the mine field has _____ the lives of many miners.

- (1) closed
- (2) cleared
- (3) claimed
- (4) cleansed

(4)

3

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). (5 marks)

295

The Aurora Borealis, or the Northern Lights, is nature's most beautiful light show. Encyclopedias (16) define it as a colourful light phenomenon, which shows itself when charged particles, carried by solar winds, hit the upper parts of the Earth's atmosphere. These lights usually perform at a height of 100 kilometres. There are enormous changes in colour and form. One can easily (17) observe the Northern Lights as beams of light 'swaying' across the sky. Some observers (18) pointed out that the Northern Lights also make sounds as they blaze across the sky. This however has not been scientifically proven. In order to see a (19) proper showing of the spectacular Northern Lights, one should spend at least one week in Lapland, Finland. The most (20) anxious "Northern Lights tourists" are the Japanese. They believe that the Northern Lights bring happiness to their family. Many guest groups in Lapland ask the night porters of hotels to wake them at any time of the night if the Northern Lights are to appear.

16. (1) depict
(2) discuss
(3) describe
(4) determine
17. (1) spot
(2) peer
(3) notice
(4) perceive
18. (1) claimed
(2) declared
(3) affirmed
(4) confirmed
19. (1) right
(2) decent
(3) precise
(4) suitable
20. (1) eager
(2) ardent
(3) nervous
(4) apprehensive

(1)

3

(1)

3

(2)

1

(1)

2

(3)

1

www.humanity-ally.org.sg/volunteers.html

Welcome

[About Us](#)
[Services](#)
[Gallery](#)
[Resources](#)
[Contact Us](#)

Criteria

- Above 18 years old
- Ability to converse in Chinese dialects, Malay or Tamil is an advantage, but not a must
- Able to commit on a long-term basis
- Passionate in interacting with seniors

VOLUNTEERING

Human beings are social beings who need friendship, communication and interaction with others. This longing does not go away with age. However, the ability to connect with others often becomes more difficult when we become older and that results in an increase in the number of lonely seniors.

You can bring joy into the lives of our seniors.

BASIC INFORMATION

NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

CONTACT NUMBER

GENDER ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

OCCUPATION

ADDRESS

You can't leave footprints in the sands of time while sitting down.

- Nelson Rockefeller

Thank you for your interest.

Our friendly staff will contact you soon.

Today, I reported enthusiastically for my maiden assignment as a volunteer with The Humanity Ally. Gathering up an assortment of cleaning essentials - pails, rags, brooms, mops and detergents, my team and I were all primed to spruce up Madam Hamidah's one-room flat. Having lost her spouse to a traffic accident three years ago, the aged widow has been residing alone in her humble dwelling. Madam Hamidah lacked the physical strength to maintain the cleanliness of her home because she was afflicted with multiple ailments.

We were aghast by the sight that greeted us as soon as we arrived at her home. Madam Hamidah's place was cluttered with many items that were piled up untidily, leaving us with limited space to move around. The thick layer of dust on the furniture gave an evident indication that the place had not been cleaned in recent months. A rancid smell hung in the air.

"How could anyone live in such an intolerable condition?" I pondered. My heart ached for Madam Hamidah when I saw her predicament.

I suppressed my fear of household pests and contributed my efforts to cleaning the home. All I wanted was for Madam Hamidah to have a pleasant environment to live in.

AMANDA'S DIARY POST



DATE: 16 MARCH 2015

WEATHER: SUNNY

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(8 marks)

21. Dave would like to sign up as a volunteer with The Humanity Ally. It is not compulsory for him to be _____.

- (1) above 18 years old
- (2) proficient in Chinese dialects, Malay or Tamil
- (3) able to commit on a long-term basis
- (4) keen on interacting with seniors

(2)

22. Refer to the quote on volunteerism by Nelson Rockefeller 'You can't leave footprints in the sands of time while sitting down.' It encourages people to _____.

- (1) make use of their time now to make a difference to society by volunteering
- (2) rest more often when volunteering
- (3) record down their volunteering experiences
- (4) spread the spirit of volunteerism

(1)

23. According to the text on the website, the _____ does not diminish even when people become older.

- (1) ability to forge friendship with others
- (2) desire to be alone
- (3) longing for social interactions
- (4) quality of interpersonal relationships

(3)

24. The word 'maiden' tells us that _____.

- (1) the volunteering assignment was challenging
- (2) the volunteering assignment was enjoyable
- (3) it was Amanda's first volunteering assignment with The Humanity Ally
- (4) it was Amanda's last volunteering assignment with The Humanity Ally

(3)

25. 'Humble dwelling' tells us that Madam Hamidah's home was _____.

- (1) dusty
- (2) cluttered
- (3) empty
- (4) spartan

(4)

26. What was the reason why Madam Hamidah did not clean up her house?

- (1) She did not feel the need to clean her house.
- (2) She was ill and did not have the physical strength.
- (3) She was handicapped.
- (4) She was too busy.

(2)

27. Which of the following is not one of Amanda's observations in Madam Hamidah's house?

- (1) Dust layer on the furniture
- (2) Presence of numerous items
- (3) Ample space for people to move around freely
- (4) Objects placed messily in the house

(3)

28. 'My heart ached for Madam Hamidah when I saw her predicament.'

What does this tell you about Amanda?

- (1) She is compassionate.
- (2) She is passionate.
- (3) She is sentimental.
- (4) She is temperamental.

1 (3)

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) and ✓	(D) has	(G) in ✓	(K) through ✓	(N) when ✓
(B) around ✓	(E) in ✓	(H) there	(L) unless	(P) whichever ✓
(C) had ✓	(F) is	(J) they	(M) was ✓	(Q) whoever ✓

When I was a young child, I was given a porcelain bride doll as a birthday present from my grandmother. The doll was gowned (29) (E) layers of lace. The material was shot (30) (K) with strands of shiny silver so that if I turned her gradually in the sunlight, she sparkled. Her soft blond hair, partly covered by her mantilla-like veil and train, curled gently (31) (B) her face. It was her face that was made of porcelain and (32) (Q) painted her features was truly an artist.

Her small rosebud mouth, a soft rosy pink, was curved in an everlasting introverted smile (33) (A) her cheeks blushed gently with the merest suggestion of colour. Her eyes, (34) (P) ~~X~~ were the most amazing clear shade of blue, like clean lake water reflecting the summer sky. Her irises (35) (C) been painted with a small fleck of white so that (36) (G) ~~X~~ appeared constantly to be a light in them. I thought that she (37) (M) the most serene-looking doll in the world. I knew that (38) (N) I became a bride, I would look just like her.

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

301

(39) debilitating

Dengue fever is a painful, dibilitaeing mosquito-borne disease caused by any one of four

(40) Causes X

closely related dengue viruses. These viruses are related to the viruses that caused West Nile

(41) estimated

infection and yellow fever. Each year, an asteemated 100 million cases of dengue fever occur

(42) transmitted

worldwide. Dengue fever is transmitting by the bite of an Aedes mosquito infected with a

dengue virus. The mosquito becomes infected when it bites a person with dengue virus in his

(43) directly

blood. It cannot be spread direct from one person to another person. Sometimes, symptoms

(44) mistaken

are mild and can be mistake for those of the flu or another viral infection. People with

(45) Subsequent

weakened immune systems as well as those with a second or subciquent dengue infection are

(46) developing

believed to be at greater risks of develop dengue hemorrhagic fever. There are no vaccines to

prevent dengue fever. The best way to prevent the disease is to prevent bites by infected

(47) Particularly

mosquitoes, patikularly if you are living in or travelling to a tropical area. This involves

(48) population

protecting yourself and making efforts to keep the mosquito populaysion down. If someone in

(49) vigilant

your home gets dengue fever, be especially virbilent in efforts to protect yourself and other

family members from mosquitoes. Mosquitoes which bite the infected family member could

(50) to

spread the infection for others in your home.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

The practicality of batteries is indisputable. You probably have a dozen things that are (51) powered by batteries: your mobile phone, calculator, TV remote, camera, torch, and the list (52) ~~on~~ on.

Batteries are extremely useful. (53) However, as they run on various chemicals and poisonous metals (54) like mercury, cadmium and nickel, you should not just (55) throw them in the bin.

If you throw batteries on a rubbish heap or in a landfill, the chemicals (56) ~~it~~ in contain will leak into the soil and groundwater. This results (57) in pollution. Ultimately, the chemicals will (58) ~~spread~~ spread up in our food and water, and (59) nobody wants that!

If you throw a battery in an incinerator, heavy metals like mercury can vaporise and be released (60) into the air. When it rains, they fall back to Earth, (61) ~~to~~ into the rivers and oceans.

Incinerating batteries can also (62) ~~to~~ lead to poisons like mercury and cadmium becoming concentrated in the cinders that are left (63) behind. When these are dumped, the poison leaks from this residue into the environment.

You can (64) decrease the number of batteries you use by purchasing rechargeable products. They cost a little more, but you can use them (65) again. You can play a part in practising the 3Rs which are reduce, reuse and recycle.

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

303

66. Timothy insisted on going to school. He was ill.

Although Timothy was ill, he insisted on going to school.

67. We went to the famous restaurant. Many people like to go there.

we went to the famous restaurant where
many people like to go ~~there~~.

68. William is sincere. He convinced the President to help the less privileged.

William's sincerity ~~made~~ him convinced the president to help
the less privileged

69. The workers are mending the damaged roof.

The damaged ~~are~~ being mended by the workers.

70. We have to be diligent and wise to achieve our goals.

With diligence and wisdom, we achieve our goals.

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

Dione held the purple cotton sweater to her face and the familiar smell immediately struck her, an overwhelming anguish knotting her stomach and tugging at her heart. Pins and needles ran up the back of her neck and a lump in her throat threatened to choke her. Anxiety took over. Apart from the low hum of the refrigerator and the intermittent moaning of the pipes, the house was quiet. She was alone. Bile rose to her throat and she ran to the bathroom, where she collapsed to her knees before the toilet.

Mike was gone and he would never be back. That was the reality. She would never again run her fingers through his soft hair, never share a private joke across the table at a dinner party, never cry to him when she got home from a hard day at work and just needed a hug; she would never share a bed with him again, never be woken up by his fits of sneezes each morning, never laugh with him so much her stomach would ache, never fight with him about whose turn it was to get up and turn the bedroom light off. All that was left was a bundle of memories and an image of his face became more and more vague each day.

Their plan had been very simple. To stay together for the rest of their lives. A plan that anyone within their circle would agree was accomplished. They were best friends, lovers and soul mates destined to be together, everyone thought. But as it occurred, one day destiny greedily changed its mind on the newlyweds.

The end had come all too soon. After complaining of a migraine for a few days, Mike had agreed to Dione's suggestion that he see his doctor. This was done one Wednesday on a lunch break from work. The doctor thought it was due to stress or fatigue and agreed that at the very worst he might need glasses. Mike had not been pleased with that. He had been upset about the idea that he might need glasses. He need not have worried, since as it turned out it was not his eyes that were the problem. It was the tumour growing inside his brain.

Dione flushed the toilet, and shivering from the coldness of the tiled floor, she shakily steadied herself to her feet. He had been thirty-two years old. By no means had he been the healthiest man in the earth, but he had been healthy enough to... he should not have lived so safely. Even as he lived about it, Dione could see the regret in his eyes - regret for the things he never made time to do and the places he never saw.

14/20

305

71. Identify the sounds that could be heard in the quiet house. [2 m]

1. Low hum of refrigerator.
2. Intermittent moaning of pipers.

72. From Paragraph 1, pick out the evidence that suggests each of the following. [3 m]

	Evidence
Dione felt goosebumps on her neck.	✗
Dione was about to vomit.	Bile rose to her throat and she ran to the bathroom.
Dione was overwhelmed by weakness.	She collapsed to her knees before the toilet.

73. Did Dione and Mike share a strong bond together? Explain your answer with two memories with Mike that Dione had. [2 m]

yes, she ^{cried} ~~cried~~ to him when she got home from a hard day at work and just needed a hug and shared a bed with him.

74. Which word from Paragraph 3 tells us that Dione and Mike were just married. [1 m]

newlyweds

75. This passage mentions that destiny greedily changed its mind. What has happened to Dione and Mike's destiny? [2 m]

It was the tumour growing inside his brain. ✗

76. What does 'This' in line 20 refer to? [1 m]

Mike seeing a doctor due to Dione's suggestion.

77. 'He need not have worried, since as it turned out it was not his eyes that were the problem.'
(lines 23 - 24)

Explain the irony in this sentence. [2 m]

His eyes did not have problem but there's a tumour growing inside his brain which was even worse.

78. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1 m]

- 3 Mike suffered from migraine.
1 Mike and Dione got married.
2 A tumour was found growing in Mike's brain.

79. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [4 m]

	True/ False	Reason
Mike and Dione appeared as a loving couple to their circle of friends.	True	A plan that anyone within their circle would agree was accomplished.
Dione would soon forget Mike's looks.	False	
Mike suffered from migraine because his eyesight was poor and he needed glasses.	False	A tumour was growing inside his brain.
Mike had some regrets in his life.	True	Dione could see regret in his eyes - regret for the things he never had time to do and the place he never saw.

80. What do you think happened to Mike in the end? [2 m]

Passed away with regret due to the tumour in his brain.